



**West Toronto Human Services and Justice
Coordinating Committee (WT-HSJCC)**

Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2015

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Metro West Courthouse, 2201 Finch Avenue West, Boardroom

Present: Patricia Pagnani (Co-chair), Toronto Bail Program; Amber Kellen (Co-chair), John Howard Society of Toronto; Sarah Haslip, T.A. Patterson & Associates; Mary Ross-Hendriks, Judiciary; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Karen Poole, Reconnect; Debbie Lynch (Co-chair), CTYS; Sheine Mankovsky, Judiciary; Dawnmarie Harriott, Voices from the Street; Lucy Drumonde, Voices from the Street/Women's Speak Out

Call-In: None

Regrets: Nancy Blades, Cota; Doris Galas, Humber River Regional Hospital; Leann Gallant, CMHA; Elana Glass, Duty Counsel; Nicole Giles, CMHA; Natasha Bronfman, CMHA; Laval Binns, Probation and Parole

Welcome and Introductions

- Everybody introduced themselves.
- Sheine Mankovsky, Judiciary was welcomed. She is a Justice of the Peace at the 1000 Finch, Avenue West Courthouse

Review of March 10, 2015 minutes

- The minutes were approved.

Presentation – Dawnmarie Harriott, Voices from the Street; Lucy Drumonde, Voices from the Street/Women's Speak Out

- Debbie Lynch provided the context for inviting Voices from the Street to present. The committee reviews its membership annually. Domenica Dileo informed the committee about the model that the Scarborough HSJCC applied to include people with lived experience on their committee. S-HSJCC invited Voices from the Street to learn about the Voices from the Street project. Scarborough developed their recruitment criteria and Voices from the Street referred two members who live in Scarborough to join the committee. In Scarborough there is no organization for/by people with lived experience.

- Voices from the Street is a speaker's bureau comprised of people who have had direct experience with homelessness, poverty, and/or mental health issues. The Voices from the Street - Working for Change program provides 12 weeks of leadership training for people with lived experience. It offers those people the opportunity to use their experience to advocate and help shape policies.
- Based on the learning from the At Home/Chez Soi initiative which was a four year project aimed at offering support to people experiencing homelessness and mental health issues, Voices from the Street developed the leadership training program. The At Home/Chez Soi project had many challenges because participants had no leadership training thus making it difficult for participants to participate in settings where they had no previous training or experience. The learning that came out of the At Home/Chez Soi project are incorporated into the Voices from the Street training program.
- The Voices from the Streets leadership program addresses boundaries, office etiquette, conflict resolution, communication skills and provides a systemic analysis on issues.
- Voices from the Street also had pre-employment programs, but currently have challenges getting referrals from Ontario Works
- Aimed at working with people who are interested in social justice issues and applies diverse learning strategies. Uses the perspective that it is "WE" not 'I', to understand systemic issues
- Challenges people face when joining committees: large learning curve, acronyms, specific language for every context
- Everyone has to be on board to include people with lived experience
- It takes time to integrate.
- Lucy Drumonde spoke about her lived experience and participation with the Leadership Program. She was involved with the Women's Speak Out Program funded by the Status of Women
- She is currently on the Board of the Gerstein Centre. There has been a learning curve and she is learning about organization mandate and funding relationships. As a Board member she can be part of the community and share her insights/ learning so that the organizations she works with also gain new knowledge. Her focus has been to advocate for oneself because having a voice builds confidence.
- Dawnmarie Harriott provided information on outreach and addressing barriers.
- Important to have honorarium for people with lived experience.
- Discussion ensued regarding conflict of interest if someone on the committee has charges before the court. If someone is on probation there is no conflict for the person to be a committee member for the Justice of the Peace. The committee decided to take the approach that membership conditions apply to all members equally. Boundaries and conflict of interest concerns to be added to the Terms of Reference. The idea the committee

supports is that any issue one has outside the meeting stays outside the meeting

- The committee decided not to place any time restriction for the length that one can join the committee.
- It is important that participation on the committee is meaningful for everyone
- It was acknowledged that Voices from the Street is a great resource.
- The committee decided to welcome potential members who are interested in joining and do not necessarily have to be a referral coming from Voices from the Street.
- The committee decided to aim for two people with lived experience to join – this can ensure support for each other
- Suggestions were made for a meet and greet to enhance integration
- It was decided to have a screening and interview process to ensure there is a fit.
- It was decided that the Terms of Reference be updated and applied to all members to address inclusion, equity, and boundaries. Updated Terms of Reference will be circulated to members prior to the next meeting – September 2015. It was decided that Amber Kellen will amend the Terms of Reference and will be distributed to the committee for approval.
- Dawnmarie Harriott and Lucy Drumonde were thanked for their informative presentation

Munch and Learns

- March 11, 2015 had a Munch and Learn on ‘Substance Use Treatment System 101 for Courtroom Decision-Makers with Dennis Long, Executive Director at Breakway Addiction Services and Robin Cuff, Manager of the Toronto Drug Treatment Court Program at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto.
- Twenty -five people attended. The video recording of the session was distributed to the Local HSJCCs and uploaded to the PHSJCC website.
- Need to ensure the tech hook ups are operating prior to the session. Need to use the court projector for session in the courthouse.
- Discussion ensued about the next Munch and Learn. There are three per year.
- It was suggested that one session be a panel on “ Crisis Services -- Who to call when in crisis” with the Distress Centre, Family Association for Mental Health Everywhere (FAME), and VAST (services for vulnerable people in the City). Karen Poole will provide other resources for a panel. Amber will connect with Cota to get information on their Geriatric Services. Suggestion to have Geriatric Services as a separate Munch and Learn.
- Domenica Dileo will check with Elana Glass for a possible date for the next Munch and Learn that fits with the MAG’s Office learning sessions.

Agency/Organization Updates

- Amber Kellen reported on the Reintegration Centre. They are having their Community Open House on Thursday, May 28, 2015 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the RC.
- Mary Ross-Hendriks will report at the next meeting on the Justice Collaborative. The Justice Collaborative College Park initiative was not possible and are looking how they can address the gender issues with other stakeholders.
- Mary Ross-Hendriks reported that Video Bail at the 2201 Finch Avenue courthouse has been delayed due to technological challenges.
- Sheine Mankovsky, Justice of the Peace was welcomed to the committee. It was also suggested that she be sent a welcome package about the NY-HSJCC. Domenica Dileo will follow-up.

Service Coordination Issues/Service Resolution

- No issues identified.

Updates from the T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC

- P-HSJCC Save the Date Conference went out. It will take place November 16 – 18, 2015 in Toronto.
- Domenica Dileo asked the committee who would be able to attend if no subsidy was available. Most people said they would not be able to attend if there was no subsidy. It was recommended to offer a subsidy to those who have no access to funds.

Actions

- Domenica Dileo to send a NY-HSJCC welcome package to Sheine Mankovsky.
- Amber Kellen will amend the Terms of Reference to be distributed prior to the September 2015 meeting.

Next Meeting

- September 29, 2015 at 2201 Metro West Courthouse, 2201 Finch Avenue West, Boardroom (between courtroom 202 and 203) from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. No presenter for the next meeting due to the extra time needed to review the amended Terms of Reference.
- Domenica Dileo will add Elena Glass's and Patricia Pagnani's cell numbers to the meeting reminder to let people know who to call if they need to get into the meeting.